

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action dated February 10, 2004, the Examiner has objected to the drawings as including reference signs not mentioned in the Specification, and has rejected Claims 1-4, and 8-18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). By this paper, the Specification has been amended to include the aforementioned reference signs, and a new sheet of clean formal drawings has been submitted for FIG 2. Identified copies of the new sheet for FIG. 2 are attached hereto for Examiner's approval per the new guidelines set for Amendments. Also, by this paper, Claims 1, 6, 10, 12 and 15 have been amended to more particularly point out that which the Applicant regards as the invention. Further, Claims 5 and 11 have been cancelled without prejudice. For the reasons set forth fully below, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 1-4, 6-10 and 12-18, the claims remaining in this Application, as amended, are allowable.

Applicants' invention is directed to a power supply that combines the advantages of current regulation with voltage limitation to enable corona chargers that can be run at higher current regulated set points for lower resistance sheets. This regulation and limitation of reference controls retaining the ability of changing the operating set points of the power supply such that it can be adapted to alternate physical configurations of the discharging system and the printing system is an important aspect of Applicants' invention which is neither shown nor in any way taught by the prior art.

Claims 1-4, and 8-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuge, et al., in view of Komori. The Examiner has kindly indicated that the subject matter of Claims 5-7 is allowable. By this amendment, the subject matter of Claim 5 has been included in independent Claims 1, 10, and 15. Accordingly, Applicants' invention would not be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art in view of the cited references either individually or in any proper combination. Therefore, amended independent Claims 1, 10 and 15, and amended Claims 2-4, 6-9, and 12-18, dependent directly or indirectly thereon, should now be allowed.

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Applicants are not aware of any additional patents, publications, or other information not previously submitted to the Patent and Trademark Office which would be required under 37 C.F.R. §1.99.

This Application is now believed to be in condition for favorable reconsideration and early allowance, and such actions are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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